

REMARKS

Independent claims 18 and 25 have been amended.

Claims 18 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as being based on a disclosure which is not enabling. Specifically, the Section 112 rejection refers to the limitation “said file system does not provide for transferring a copy of the database file that is fully operative outside said hand held electronic reference product” in claims 18 and 25. Claims 18 and 25 have been amended to remove this limitation. Accordingly, it is requested that the rejection of claims 18 and 25, and those claims dependent thereon, under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

Claims 18-20, 24-27, and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mankoff (US Publ. 2002/0116271) in view of Cronce (US Pat. 7,032,240) and further in view of Schena et al. (US Pat. 6,314,457) (“Schena”).

Independent claims 18 and 25 have been amended to recite external PC including a database reader application accessing an encrypted database on an electronic hand held reference product having a file system wherein

“said database file is accessed using said file system of the hand held electronic reference product while said hand held electronic reference product is connected to said PC and thereby said file system maintaining control over the transmission of said database file”.

Support for this amendment is set forth at least on page 9, lines 8-10 and page 10, lines 3-12 and page 12, lines 1-4 and 15-18 and page 13, lines 6-10. This use of the reference product's file system in conjunction with a first and second voucher and a PC reader as recited in claims 18 and 25 provide for the necessary security to provide a user access to an encrypted database on a

hand held electronic reference product using a monitor, keyboard and mouse on an external PC while controlling the unauthorized distribution of that database.

It is submitted that neither Mankoff, Cronic nor Schena, nor the combination thereof, disclose or suggest the features recited in amended claims 18 and 25. Specifically, none of the cited references disclose a hand held electronic reference product connected to a PC wherein an encrypted database file stored on the hand held product is accessed using the file system on the hand held product to provide for the decryption and display on the PC of information within the database file.

As shown in Fig 2, Mankoff discloses synchronization of data between a PC 10 and a personal digital assistant 15 over a communications network 21, the data representing electronic coupons and accompanying information downloaded over the Internet and stored on the PC. Mankoff, however, is silent as to using the file system of the personal digital assistant, rather than the file system of the PC, to sync the electronic coupons and accompanying information from the PC onto the personal digital assistant. Hence, Mankoff does not disclose the various features of the present invention as recited in amended claims 18 and 25.

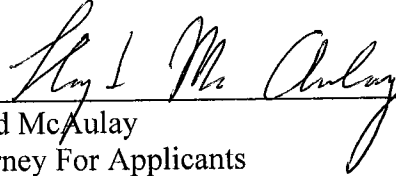
As shown in Fig. 1, Cronic discloses a host system 110 accessing authorization information 171 on a portable authorization device 140 connected to the host system 110 prior to providing access to protected information 115 on the host system 110. Cronic, however, does not disclose or suggest using the file system of the portable authorization device, rather than the file system of the host system, to access either the authorization information on the portable device or the protected information on the host system. Hence, Cronic does not disclose the various features of the present invention as recited in amended claims 18 and 25.

As shown in Fig. 1, Schena discloses a portal server 200 connected via a network to a scanner 100 and a receiver 80 (or customer premises equipment 300 including a receiver), the portal server 200 allowing advertisers, print media owners and information providers to have a single common database of links for print and electronic. The database serves links to multimedia sequences over the network based on a machine readable code 10 embedded within a print media 50 such as an advertisement in a magazine that is read by the scanner 10. Schena discloses the portal server 200 maintaining a fee tracking module, a management module and a statistics module. Schena, however, is silent as to both a database residing on a remote device connected to the portal server and as to accessing that database using the file system on the remote device, rather than the file system on the portal server, while connected to the portal server. Hence, Schena does not disclose the various features of the present invention as recited in amended claims 18 and 25.

Accordingly, Applicants' amended independent claims 8 and 25, each of which recite an external PC including a database reader application wherein the database reader application accesses an encrypted database file using a file system of the hand held product, and those claims dependent thereon, patently distinguish over Mankoff taken alone or in combination with Crounce and Schena.

In light of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lloyd McAulay", is written over a horizontal line.

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Lloyd McAulay
Attorney For Applicants
Reg. No. 20,423
COWAN, LIEBOWITZ & LATMAN, P.C
1133 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036-6799
(212) 790-9217
Fax No. (212) 575-0671
Email: lmc@cjl.com